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Montana and the Sky

MDT Department of Transportation – Aeronautics Division Vol. 47 No. 5 May 1996

Yellowstone Airport: Ready to Serve

By: Redge Meierhenry, Chief
Airport/Airways Bureau

The Yellowstone Airport will officially open on June 1 with Skywest Airlines providing airline service to Salt Lake City. Avis and Budget Rent-A-Car agencies are in operation with a large inventory of cars for your use to visit Yellowstone National Park, the Grizzly Discovery Center, IMAX Theatre and other attractions.

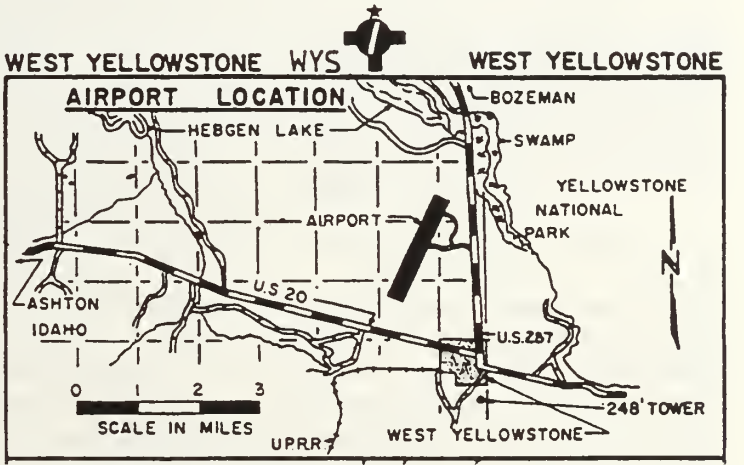
Yellowstone Aviation (FBO) provides fuel, tie downs, etc. for your aircraft. Our airport can handle anything from a single seat homebuilt to a C5A military transport. We're sure you'll fit in somewhere.

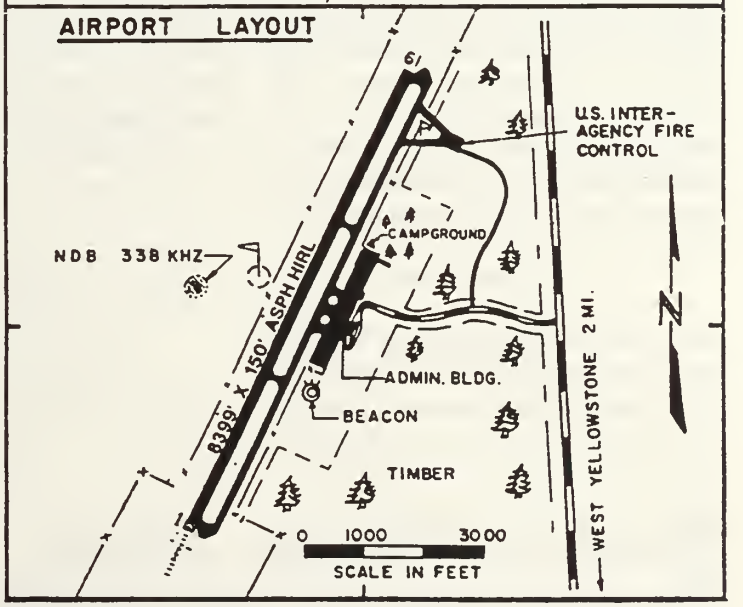
Doris' Cafe in the terminal building serves beer and wine with their meals so be sure to stop in when visiting the airport. The cafe has an excellent Mexican menu.

Available next to the ramp is our free pilot campground featuring running water, fireplaces, picnic tables and believe it or not, a hot shower facility. Free firewood is provided for campfires.

Our annual Labor Day Fly-in is scheduled for the Labor Day weekend, August 31 to Sept 2, 1996. A density altitude clinic and pilot safety seminars will be part of the program with FAA and Aeronautics instructors. Tours through the Interagency Fire Control Center smokejump base, is planned along with other activities and special meals. Please call us in Helena at (406) 444-2506 about the fly-in or call the airport (406) 646-7631 about airport facilities, camping, motels, etc. See you at the airport.

Other phone numbers that may help: Skywest Airlines 646-7351; Yellowstone Aviation 646-7359; Budget Rent-A-Car 646-7735; Avis Rent-A-Car 646-7625; Doris' Cafe 646-9533.





IDENT: WYS ELEV: 6644' LOC: 44-41.3 N 111-07.1 W

Lighted: Rwy 1/19 & MALSR & VASI & REIL R.C. Key 122.8 3, 5, 7 times. Lighted Beacon
Fuel: 100, Jet A1+
Repairs: None
Services: Rental cars, taxis. Meals on field, lodging 2 miles.
Manager: MT. Aero. Div.
Phone: 646-7631
Winter phone—444-2506
Owner: State of Montana

Radio: Unicom 122.8; GTF FSS RCO 122.45; SLC APP CON 132.4
Nav Aids: ESY NDB 338
Rwy 01— *ILS 110.7 *
MALSR (RC)
LOM 415
Rwy 19— VASI
REIL (RC)
Remarks: Airport attended June 1 to Sept. 30. No snow removal. Free pilots campground on airport.

Administrator's Column

FAA Changes Rules: The FAA has responded favorably to many concerns voiced by Part 135 operators by changing their rule and now will allow Part 135 pilots to remove and reinstall aircraft seats. This change applies only to aircraft type-certificated with no more than nine seats. In addition to the seats, pilots will also be allowed to change configuration of cabin mounted stretchers and medical oxygen bottles. Previously a certified mechanic was required to make these changes which in many cases created quite a burden. The FAA is to be commended for responding favorably to this common sense change.

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FAA Pledges Support: FAA Administrator David Hinson has pledged his support to phase in "free flight" over the next ten years. Free flight is strongly supported by both pilots and air traffic controllers because it will allow pilots operating under instrument flight rules to fly the most efficient direct routes and altitudes thus resulting in both pilot and controller workload reductions as well as economy. Although there will be certain restrictions, all agree that "free flight" is achievable.

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Congress Knee Jerks: In an expected "knee jerk" reaction, the U.S. House of Representatives is considering a bill (H.R.3267) which would prohibit children from piloting aircraft during record-setting flights and call for a review of "issues associated with the manipulation of the controls of an aircraft by uncertificated personnel." The bill would require a pilots license—thus a minimum age of 17. This has been brought about by the much-publicized tragic accident which took the lives of a seven-year old girl, her father, and her flight instructor. The father and flight instructor were attempting a big publicity stunt by saying this little girl was flying the airplane on a record setting east & west flight across the US. FAA Administrator Hinson, Aircraft Owners & Pilots Association, General Aviation Manufacturers Association, and Air Transportation Association have all endorsed this legislation. Although I don't have any strong disagreement with this legislation, I feel that it is unnecessary and current FAA regulations are adequate in that the Certified Flight Instructor was clearly "**Pilot in Command.**" There are several critical aviation issues before Congress which are not moving forward and because of media hype, valuable time is being devoted to something that is not at all critical.

Rocky's Flying Team Competes in Nationals

Members of the Rocky Mountain College Precision Flying Team travelled to Daytona Beach, FL, to compete in the National Intercollegiate Flying Association's "SAFECON" (Safety and Flight Evaluation Conference). The "Flying Bears" won the invitation to compete after tying for second place at the Region I SAFECON in Billings last October.

The Precision Flying Team finished in 11th place out of the 26 teams competing.

Congratulations to Dave Kimball, Director of Aviation Studies at Rocky and team advisor, and Ed Trautwein, simulator and classroom instructor and all members of the "Flying Bears!!"

Montana and the Sky
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Marc Racicot, Governor
Marv Dye, Director

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Calendar

May 4—EAA Chapter 57 Fly-in, Laurel Municipal Airport. Contact: Bob Kimpton (406)259-7010.

May 4—Glasgow Young Eagles Day, Glasgow Airport.

May 12—USAF Thunderbirds, Malmstrom AFB, Great Falls. Static displays 10:30–3:30pm, show time at 3:30 pm. No charge, open to the public. Contact: Len Wheeler (406)449-5270.

May 17–19—Montana CAP State Conference, War Bonnet Inn, Butte.

May 25—EAA Chapter 1122 Fly-in, Polson.

May 25–27—Benchmark Annual Work Session.

May 31–June 2—CAP SAR Exercise, Laurel Airport. Call Major Al Bentley 657-2026.

June 7—Montana Aeronautics Board Meeting, Yellowstone Airport.

June 9—Montana Flying Farmers and Ranchers 50th Year Celebration, pot-luck at 1pm, Lewistown Airport Terminal.

June 11—Aviation Safety Program, Kalispell.

June 12—Aviation Safety Program, Missoula.

June 13–16— Montana Antique Airplane Association Air Tour, contact Roy Hollandsworth, 627-2446.

June 15—Miles City Airport Appreciation Day and Fly-in. Contact Alvin Hirsch 354-6481.

June 18—Aviation Safety Program, Billings.

June 19—Aviation Safety Program, Great Falls.

June 20—Aviation Safety Program, Helena.

June 21–23—Idaho Aviation Association Fly-in, Lewiston, ID. Contact Johnny Stewart (208)476-4647.

June 22—Helena Hangar MPA Worksession and Fly-in, Lincoln Airport.

June 27–July 4—Great Northern Air Adventure. Call (306)931-8585 or (403)451-5289.

July 1—50th Anniversary of the National CAP receiving Federal Charter from Congress.

July 10–14—Northwest EAA Regional Fly-in, Arlington, WA.

July 13—Annual Hamilton Airport Fly-in and Pancake Breakfast. Contact: Warren Woolley (406)363-0874.

July 13—North Central Fly-In Breakfast and Toy Show, Havre. Contact: John Anderson (406)265-7338.

July 19– 22—Schafer Meadows Annual Worksession.

July 20—Cub Scout Benefit Fly-in Breakfast. All you can eat $3.50, 7 am–12 noon, Harlowton Airport. Call Will Morse 632-4545.

August 1–7—44th Annual EAA Fly-in Convention, Oshkosh, WI.

August 8–11—MAAA Annual Fly-in, Three Forks Airport/Progreba Field. Dedication of Progreba Memorial on August 10 at 11 am with lunch to follow. Contact Bill Fairhurst 285-3515.

August 23–25—Annual Family Fly-in and Flight Safety Expo, Driggs, ID.

August 24–25—Billings to Wendover, NE, VFR Air Race. For details contact Bob Hollister, P.O. Box 1211, Forsyth, MT 59327.

August 30–September 2—Annual Labor Day Fly-in, West Yellowstone.

September 12–15—Reno Air Races.

September 20–22—Mountain Search Pilot Clinic, Kalispell.

September 28—Aerotronics 5th Annual Open House, Billings.

Bootstrap Approach Workshops

One-day workshops on flying and using The Bootstrap Approach to propeller aircraft performance calculations will be held at several airport locations this spring and summer. Workshop dates and places are:

May 18 at Centennial Airport, Denver, hosted by Wings of Denver Flying Club, Inc.

June 1 at Nampa Idaho Airport, hosted by SkyStar Aircraft Corp. (Kitfox)

June 15 at Laurel Airport, hosted by Northern Skies Aviation

June 29 at Montgomery County Airport (near San Diego), hosted by Infinity Aerospace, Inc.

Planning for workshops near Philadelphia and Wichita is underway. Aviation groups interested in hosting Bootstrap Workshops in their areas should contact Dr. John Lowry for details.

The Bootstrap Approach (TBA) to flight performance calculation has been published in professional aviation journals (*Journal of Aircraft* and others). This innovative but accepted technique allows ordinary pilots to fly their airplanes for an hour, calculate for fifteen minutes, then use only nine numbers to find their airplane's performance (V speeds, thrust, drag, rates and angles of climb and descent) at any weight and any altitude.

For further information on the Bootstrap Workshops, or to register, contact Dr. Lowry at Flight Physics, P.O. Box 20919, Billings, MT 59104, telephone (406)248-2606, fax (406)248-1832, email<jlowry@wtp.net>.

1996 Montana Aviation Conference

Keynote banquet speaker Brian Shul, author and SR-71 Blackbird pilot receives a set of Montana Buffalo Head Wings from Mike Ferguson. Brian's incredible story of being shot down over Cambodia, flying the world's fastest, highest flying airplane and flying with the US Air Force Thunderbirds precision flying team and the U.S. Navy Blue Angels kept folks interested and entertained—Brian is an amazing individual.

Ray Costello, Northwest Mountain Region Representative for the Aircraft Owners and Pilots Association (AOPA) presented Vic Wokal of Glasgow with the AOPA President's Distinguished Service Award. Vic was chosen for his devotion to aviation. He is a former FBO and flight instructor and was instrumental in turning the Glasgow Airport into one of the finest general aviation airports in Montana. The airport recently underwent a name change—Wokal Field, Glasgow International Airport.

Tina Pomeroy, President of the Aviation Organizations of Montana (AOM) served as master of ceremonies at the banquet. Tina selects the lucky winner of a round-trip ticket compliments of Northwest Airlines. Chris Saucier and Doug Parrott of Northwest Airlines presented the ticket to.....Loren Smith of Great Falls. Thanks, Northwest, for your continued support and contribution to the Montana aviation community. You are all greatly appreciated!

Tom Olswang of Trimble Navigation presents Gerry Smith with a Flightmate hand-held GPS. The drawing for the GPS was conducted by Tom at the banquet. Tom is one of the many exhibitors who generously donate items to Montana aviators each year.

Chuck Foster (retired Northwest Mountain Region Administrator, FAA) and John Stoltz of Advanced Navigation and Positioning Corporation attending from Hood River, OR, and Bellevue, WA, presented a concurrent session, "New Horizons for Navigation."

Pete Sanders of Helena enjoyed getting to chat and spend time with Major Dee Brasseur the awards luncheon speaker.

Outgoing Montana Pilots Association President, Bob Lipscomb of Glasgow, presents the MPA Junior Pilot of the Year award and scholarship to Chris Loraas of Hot Springs.

MPA President Dennis DeVivo of Dillon gives Earl Jensen the "Air Ape of the Year" award. Earl "caught" his prop this summer during the annual Schafer Meadows Fly-in.

Scholarships Presented

Greg Gonsioroski

The Montana Aeronautics Division awarded a $500 Tool Scholarship to Greg Gonsioroski. The recipient was selected by the Aviation Maintenance Faculty at the College of Technology in Helena. The scholarship is to be used to purchase tools. Greg received his Airframe and Powerplant Certificate from the College of Technology. Mike Ferguson and Phil Vittetoe, Aviation Instructor at the College presented the scholarship to Greg. Congratulations!

Angela McConnell

The Division was also pleased to present $500 flight scholarships to Angela McConnell and Ben Slinkard, aviation students at Rocky Mountain College. The scholarships will go toward their flight training. Both students are being recognized for their academic and technical achievements. Jeanne Lesnik presented the scholarships at The Aviation Club Banquet at Rocky Mountain College in April.

Ben Slinkard

Search and Rescue Report

On March 21, 1996, a pilot got weather from GTF FSS in Malta, MT, and departed Malta at 1700MST for North Platte, NB. The pilot departed without a VFR flight plan but told GTF FSS it would take about 3½ hours, listing two possible flight routes. At 0030 MST, March 22, our office was notified of a possible overdue aircraft. There was no ELT, no flight plan, no radio contact or satellite 1200 readouts. This became a four-state search: Montana, South Dakota, Wyoming and Nebraska all participated in the search for the missing plane and pilot.

The weather was a definite factor in hampering the air search. While we were unable to fly, we did an extensive phone search to ranchers who were on the possible flight path and gathered clues as to the pilot's route of flight.

The Montana Search Base was in Miles City at Falcon Aviation, with Jeanne Lesnik coordinating the search along with District 9 coordinators Tom Falconer and Darrin Pluhar.

Montana's volunteer system proved again to be very successful as we had 16 aircraft air grid searching from Malta to Miles City south to the state line and east to the state line in one day. The search continued until bad weather again halted our efforts.

The pilot was found on April 15, 1996, in South Dakota, south of Prairie City by a rancher. The pilot was killed on impact.

Thank you to all the pilots and observers and to Falcon Aviation. Your efforts are appreciated.

Thanks Sig!

Sig Ugrin of Miles City is presented a certificate of appreciation by Jeanne Lesnik of the Montana Aeronautics Division for his many years of outstanding service as the volunteer air search and rescue coordinator for District 9. Sig has stepped down as coordinator and is replaced by co-coordinators Tom Falconer and Darrin Pluhar.

Condolences

The staff at the Montana Aeronautics Division would like to extend their sympathy to the family of Jim Moore who passed away suddenly on March 29th. Jim was one of the coordinators for Montana Aeronautics Division Search and Rescue system for District #1. Jim's dedication to aviation will be missed.

The family requests any memorials go to the Sanders County Hangar Youth Scholarship Fund.

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Long-Term Partnership

A Memorandum of Understanding signed between the FAA and the National Association of State Aviation Officials (NASAO) marked an unprecedented partnership to enhance targeting of regional, state and national air transportation improvements. The cooperative, five-year agreement recognized the dynamic nature of the aviation community and the Clinton Administration's goal to improve government services at all levels.

The intent of the agreement is to develop, to the extent permissible under existing law, a long standing cooperative relationship between the two organizations. The agreement stated that the effort would include, but not be limited to, the creation of a team of FAA and state aviation officials that will oversee its implementation and the development of the long-term partnership between the two organizations.

The primary purpose of the National Association of State Aviation Officials is to foster and encourage cooperation and mutual aid among the states, as well as federal and local governments, in the development of state and national air transportation systems that will be responsive to regional, state, and national needs. By coordinating various state laws, regulations, and programs with those of the federal government, the group seeks to develop uniformity among the states and minimize duplication of state and federal efforts in the development of national and state air transportation systems.

New Medical Certification Standards

The FAA has issued the final rule revising the airman medical standards and medical certification procedures. The rule revises the standards for all licensed pilots.

With more than 5,200 written comments adamantly opposing the proposed changes to the airman medical standards, the FAA has rescinded many of the costly changes in the recently published final rule. The regulation includes the following changes from the NPRM:

- The proposed electrocardiogram for a second-class medical certificate has been withdrawn by the FAA due to insufficient economic and safety benefit.
- The proposal to shorten the duration of third-class medical certificates to one year for pilots 70 years and older was deleted.
- Cholesterol testing will not be required for any medical certificate.
- The proposed blood pressure maximums have been eliminated—the final rule makes no specific reference to blood pressure.

The new airman medical standards and certification procedures are effective on September 16, 1996.

VFR Practice Approaches

At the locations listed below, VFR aircraft executing practice instrument approaches will be provided appropriate IFR separation as described in the Aeronautical Information Manual, paragraph 4-3-21. Controller responsibility for separation begins at the point where the approach clearance becomes effective.

Airport	Facility	Frequency
Billings Logan	Billings Approach	120.5/284.6
Great Falls	Great Falls Approach	119.3/259.1
Laurel	Billings Approach	120.5/284.6
Missoula	Spokane Approach	124.9/298.95

Phillips 66 Offers Rebates

For the third consecutive year, the Phillips 66 Company is offering $1 per gallon rebates on Phillips 66 fuel purchases used for flights in the EAA Aviation Foundation "Young Eagles" program. Those rebates will be available for aviation fuel purchases made in support of the program at Phillips 66 FBOs using Phillips 66 credit cards through October 15, 1996. The rebate includes fuel purchases made for International Young Eagles Day on Saturday, June 8.

Any EAA member pilot or Chapter, or pilots from organizations authorized by the EAA Aviation Foundation, are eligible to participate in the rebate program. Fuel receipts or copies of those receipts must be mailed to Pam Crawford at Phillips 66 Company, 6C-11 Adams Building, Bartlesville, OK 74004, no later than October 31, 1996. The rebate is issued through Phillips 66 only, not individuals FBOs.

Participating pilots are asked to verify their fuel purchases by writing and signing a statement confirming the fuel was used in support of the Young Eagles program. That signed statement must be submitted with the rebate request.

Phillips 66 credit cards may be applied for by calling 800-do-apply (800-362-7759).

Thirty-two hundred copies of this public document were produced at an estimated cost of 27¢ each, for a total cost of $864. This includes $120 for production, $526 for postage and $220 for printing.

New Weather Computer

The Bert Mooney Airport located in Butte has recently obtained a PILOTbrief II system designed by WSI Corporation. Graphic and text data are received automatically via satellite. Information is continuously updated to ensure that the most current information is always available.

Response from area and visiting pilots has been overwhelming—they appreciate being able to check weather, view IFR and zone radar maps, file flight plans, etc.

The computer is located upstairs in the old Flight Service Station. On your next visit to the Mining City be sure to check out the PILOTbrief II system and stop by and say hello to Rick Griffith and all the fine folks at the Butte Airport.

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